

## **REMARKS**

### **Restriction Requirements**

The Office Action indicated that claims 1-19 are subject to a restriction and/or election requirement. Applicant respectfully assumes that since claim 20 is dependent upon claim 16, that claim 20 is also subject to the restriction and/or election requirement. More specifically, the Office Action indicated that Applicant must elect one of the following groups of claims for examination on the merits:

- I. Claims 1-7 and 16-19;
- II. Claims 8-15.

Applicant has reviewed the claims and provisionally elects Group I for examination on the merits with traverse. Claim 8 provides a gear box assembly with a gear box input shaft and a gear box output shaft, and a gear assembly which provides an underdrive gear ratio and a direct drive gear ratio or an overdrive gear ratio and a direct drive gear ratio. Similarly, claims 1-7 and 16-20 also include an input shaft, an output shaft and a gear assembly that provides an underdrive gear ratio and a direct drive gear ratio or an overdrive gear ratio and a direct drive gear ratio. Therefore, the restriction requirement should be removed and all of claims 1-20 should be examined since claims 9-15 are dependent upon claim 8 and will require a search for a gear box that contains the aforementioned components. The Patent Office would not be unduly burdened by prosecuting claims 8-15 in the same application. For this reason Applicant respectfully requests removal of the restriction requirement and examination of all existing claims on the merits.


## CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are properly allowable, which allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's undersigned attorney at (248) 364-4300 if any unresolved matters remain.

Respectfully submitted,

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